

We are local farmers, and farm land in East Granby, Windsor, and West Suffield. We are very concerned about this bottling company taking up millions of gallons of water in our area. When there is a drought, we still need water for our crops in order to feed our local population. This need should trump bottled water, lawn sprinkling and the like.

Our Windsor Farm (our home farm and largest production) is less than two minutes from where the Niagara plant is proposed. Does this mean we will suffer from lack of water pressure while Niagara is bottling? Or even worse, lack of water? I understand they will be bottling pretty much 24/7. If we can't get pressure to run our sprinkler heads, we won't be able to produce our normal volume of veggies to feed our neighbors and local CSA members! We're really concerned!

MDC tells us we are getting an "agricultural" rate, but let me tell you, we pay through the nose for the water we use. We do everything in our power to conserve, but it still costs us a fortune each year for the water we need. We're trying to keep a local, small family owned farm, sustainable. We aren't a corporate power. Why should Niagara get a better rate than we do? We're struggling to keep farming viable and water is one of our biggest expenses. Niagara really isn't doing anything for the local population. **We're** feeding people!

There are many concerns and unanswered questions and hidden agendas regarding this project. Please vote in favor of the above bill and protect our water rights. Thank you for your support!

***Judith Lanz Sedor***

**Newgate Farms**

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